

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

PG: 82B-17

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey: PG#82B-35-17 Building Date: 1850s and later

Building Name: Turton-Smith House

Location: 17414 Nottingham Road, Nottingham, MD

Private/Residence Occupied Fair Inaccessible

Description

The Turton-Smith House is situated on a bank approximately 80 feet west of the Patuxent River, in the Village of Nottingham. The main block is of wood frame construction, a low two-and-one-half stories, side-gabled and nearly square in plan; it has a steep gable roof with an extended west plane, giving it a salt-box roofline. Attached on the north is a small side-gabled, one-story kitchen addition. Entrance to the main block is in the first bay of the three-bay west facade, sheltered by a front-gabled entry porch. There is a corresponding entrance in the east, river facade. The building is sheathed with rectangular wood shingles, painted white. Windows have plain board surrounds, painted dark green. The roof is covered with green asphalt shingle, and the sill beams rest directly on the ground; there is no foundation. There have been many changes to the interior over time, evidenced by the variety in interior trim. A one-and-one-half-story gable-roof summer kitchen stands a short distance southwest of the house.

Significance

The Turton-Smith House is a small mid-nineteenth-century vernacular dwelling beautifully situated on the bank of the Patuxent River at Nottingham. Built in the 1850s, it is Nottingham's last surviving structure that dates from the nineteenth century. A summer kitchen just southwest of the house probably dates from the same period. Nottingham was an important port town and official tobacco inspection station in eighteenth-century Prince George's County, but the village declined in the nineteenth century after the silting of the Patuxent River. The main block of the subject house was built by merchant Richard Turton in the 1850s, and has been the home of a series of families, both white and black, since that time. In 1901 a disastrous fire destroyed many of the old buildings, while others have been lost to subsequent deterioration. Although the Turton-Smith House is a very modest building that shows many changes over a century and a half, it is important as the last surviving nineteenth-century building in the formerly prominent port town of Nottingham.

Acreage: 1 acre

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historical Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (Indicate preferred name)

historic Turton-Smith House

and/or common Smith House

2. Location

street & number 17414 Nottingham Road

city, town Upper Marlboro (Nottingham) vicinity of congregational district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mildred Smith

street & number 17414 Nottingham Road

telephone no.

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

zip code 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Administration Building liber 12636

street & number 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive

folio 349

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

zip code 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1992

☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Planning & Preservation Section, M-NCPPC

street & number 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

zip code 20772

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #82B-35-17

Condition		Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved Date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today

The Turton-Smith House is situated on a bank approximately 80 feet west of the Patuxent River, in the Village of Nottingham. It is approached by an unpaved driveway which makes a loop in the flat grassy yard. The main block is of wood frame construction, a low two-and-one-half stories, side-gabled and nearly square in plan; it has a steep gable roof with an extended west plane, giving it a salt-box roofline. Attached on the north is a small side-gabled, one-story kitchen addition.

The west facade of the main block, facing Nottingham Road, is three bays wide, with entrance in the first bay through a door with two horizontal lower panels and four upper lights. This west entrance is sheltered by a one-bay front-gabled entry porch with a wide, plain cornice and architrave. The porch pediment is filled with wood shingle, and the roof rests on plain wood posts. The west facade gives an asymmetrical appearance, since the three first-story windows do not align with the two second-story windows.

The building is sheathed with rectangular wood shingles, painted white. Windows in the main block are double-hung sash with plain board surrounds painted dark green; the windows are 2/2 on west, south and east elevations, and 6/6 on the north. The roof is covered with green asphalt shingle. An interior corbelled brick chimney rises from the west slope of the roof. Shingles follow the roofline in the gable ends to form a decorative course below the simple box cornice. The sill beams of the main block rest directly on the ground; there is no foundation.

The east elevation of the house fronts directly on the Patuxent River, overlooking the small wooden landing from a high bluff. The east elevation is two bays wide, with entrance is through the second bay. A one-story shed-roof screened porch runs across the entire east elevation, then wraps around and continues across the south facade. The extended west plane of the roof is clearly visible from the south gable end of the main block, giving this elevation an unusual asymmetrical appearance. The first and second stories of this south elevation are lighted by two 2/2 double-hung-sash windows, and above there is a smaller 2/2 window that lights the loft. The foundation material of the structure is not apparent.

A two-bay kitchen wing extends to the north, attached to the north gable end of the main block, and flush with its west facade. It rests on a brick foundation, and has a parged corbelled interior chimney at its south gable ridge. The kitchen wing is two bays by one, and is covered with wood shingle painted white; the cornice decoration and the roof covering are the same as in the main block. Windows in the kitchen wing are 6/6 double-hung-sash, with plain board surrounds painted dark green.

There have been many changes to the interior of the house over time. The interior trim varies, most of it being simple narrow board, although the surrounds of the east and west doors consist of banded molding with bull's-eye corner blocks typical of the turn of the twentieth century. The floor plan of the main block

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form
State of Significance (continued)

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Survey No. ~~P.G. #82B-35-17~~

Section 7 Page 2

features a stairhall on the north, which opens into adjoining parlors on the south. A heating stove is centered in the wall between the two parlors, and there is an opening between the two parlors on each side of the stove. The open string, bracketed stairway rises toward the west along the north exterior wall of the main block. It is entered from the east (river) side of the house, suggesting that the river side may originally have been the principal facade.

A one-and-one-half story gable-roof summer kitchen stands a short distance southwest of the house; it has the same wall covering, roof covering and cornice treatment as the main structure. This small building rests on a stone foundation. There is a door and a 6/6 double-hung-sash window in its east gable end and another door and window in the south elevation. In each of the east and west gable ends, a small 6/6 window lights the loft level. There is an interior brick chimney on the west gable end. Inside the building is a well with a pump.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #82B-35-17

Period	Areas of Significance- check and justify below				
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			Local History
Specific Dates 1850's and later		Builder/Architect			
check: Applicable Criteria		<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D			
and/or					
Applicable Exception		<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D			
Level of Significance		national state local			

The Turton-Smith House is a small mid-nineteenth-century vernacular dwelling beautifully situated on the bank of the Patuxent River at Nottingham. Built in the 1850s, it is the last surviving structure in the village that dates from the nineteenth century. A summer kitchen just southwest of the house probably dates from the same period.

Nottingham was an important commercial center in the eighteenth century Prince George's County. The 1706 Assembly Act for the Advancement of Trade established Nottingham and five other towns as ports for shipping tobacco. It was designated as an official location for a tobacco inspection warehouse in 1747. By the late eighteenth century Nottingham was a bustling town of stores, warehouses, church and inns. In August 1814, it was the site of the encampment of British troops as they marched on Washington. After the middle of the nineteenth century, as the Patuxent River silted up and gradually lost its prominence as an artery of transportation, Nottingham began to decline. In 1901 a disastrous fire destroyed many of the old buildings. Still during the early part of the twentieth century there were nearly a dozen dwellings, a schoolhouse, lodge, parsonage and several stores and shops, as well as the foundations of the eighteenth-century warehouses and an early hotel. Nottingham became a shadow of its former self; although it still had a small year-round population, it became more of a retreat for hunters and fishermen. Today the Turton-Smith House is the only nineteenth century building still standing among the small community of residences at the water's edge.

The Turton family owned considerable property in the Nottingham District during the nineteenth century. The subject house was built by merchant Richard Turton shortly after he acquired the one-acre lot in 1850. He lived in it only a short time, however, dying at the age of 28 in 1857. After the death of his widow, his property was left to his four siblings. Since his estate was insufficient to pay his debts, however, a trustee was appointed to sell the real estate. The property was sold by the trustee to Grosvenor M. C. Jones in 1865.¹ Since that time, the house has had a series of owners.

The Nottingham District has had a long-standing African-American population; after the Civil War, several schools and churches were built for the local black population, and several black families acquired property in and near the village of Nottingham. The Savoy family, a local black family of long

¹Prince George's County Land Records JBB#6:571; Prince George's County Equity #180, decree dated 12 Dec. 1857.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form
State of Significance (continued)

Survey No. ~~P.G. #82B-35-17~~Section 8 Page 2

standing, owned and occupied the subject property from 1877 to 1902;² it was the home of Dewitt L. Washington, also black, from 1905 to 1933.³ By the middle of the twentieth century, the subject property was owned and occupied by members of several local white families, the Downings and the Ryons. In 1968, the Smith family, who had lived in another house in Nottingham (82B-35-20) since the 1940s, purchased the Turton house, and members of the Smith family still own and occupy the house today.⁴

It is difficult to determine the construction dates of the several alterations to this house. The small, modest main block almost certainly dates to the period of the 1850s, and the outbuilding probably served at that time as the kitchen. The one-bay westerly extension to the main block was probably added before the end of the nineteenth century, and the kitchen wing may have been added at approximately the same time. All visible framing and siding is circular sawn, but careful investigative restoration work may reveal more clues to the construction sequence.

The Turton-Smith House is important as the last surviving nineteenth-century building in the formerly important port town of Nottingham. It is an established and familiar visual feature of this river village, and exemplifies the cultural and historical heritage of the County in its rural communities.

²Prince George's County Land Records HB#13:116; and Equity #2223, 1896.

³Prince George's County Land Records #29:335, #384:221.

⁴Ibid. #3611:732, #4667:37.

9. Major Biographical

PG: 82B-17
Survey No. P.G. #82B-35-17

See Footnotes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acre

Text Map 149, parcel 5

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, Section B

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

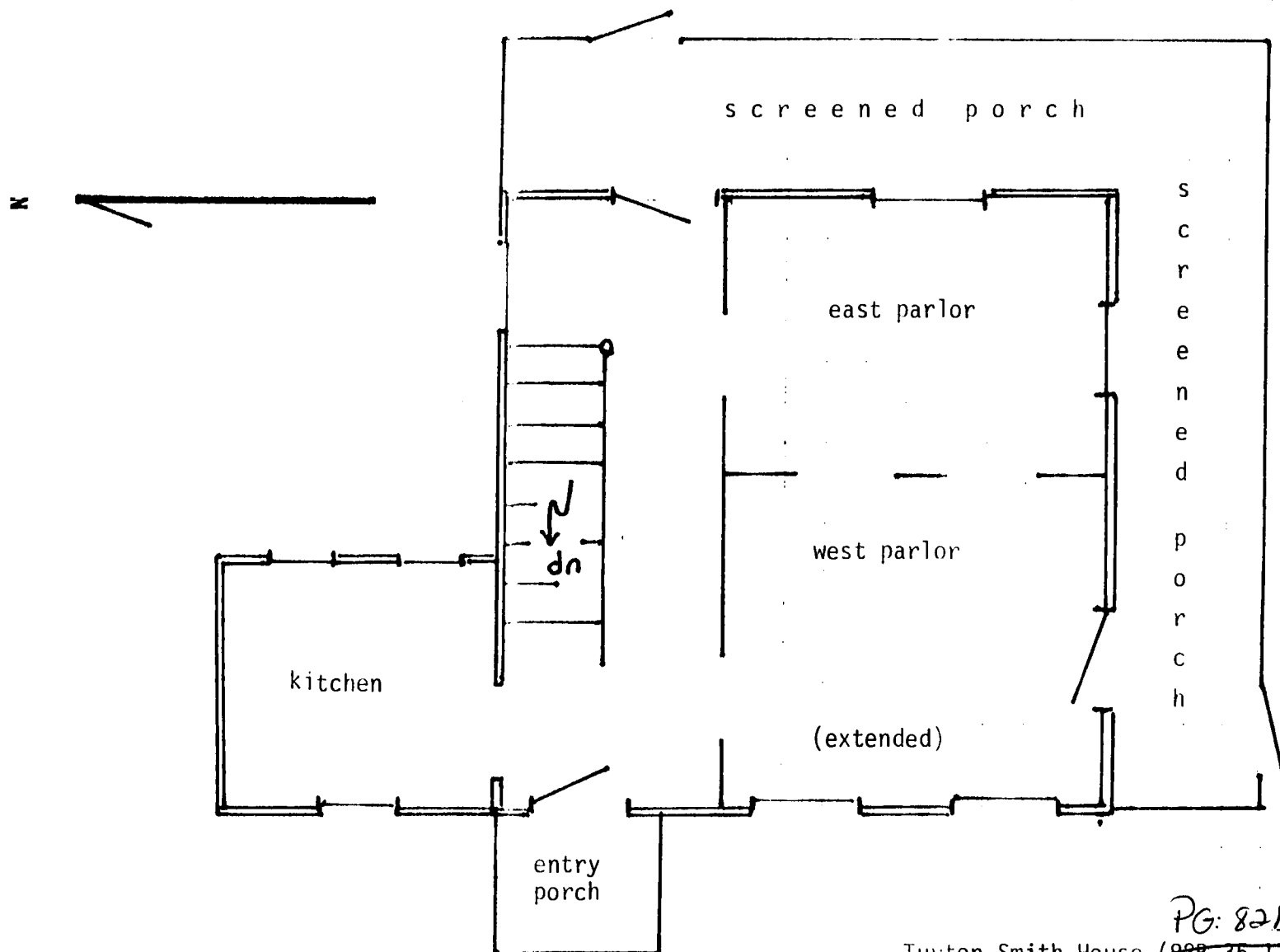
11. Form Prepared By

name title	Susan G. Pearl, Historian, and Marina King, Architectural Historian
organization	Historic Preservation Commission
date	August 1985, October 2000
street & number	14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive
telephone	301-952-3520
city or town	Upper Marlboro
state	MD 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

Return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401



PG: 82B-17
 Turton-Smith House (82B-35-17)
 Nottingham, MD
 (not to scale)

small
 outbuilding

NOTTINGHAM

BERNARD D. DOWNING
4338/265
139.74 A
P. 7

TANYARD RD.

O-S

GORDON D. DOWNING
4338/261
163.94 A
P. 59

M. 140
P. 22 4.08 A
P. 22

MAP 143-
P. 7

M. 143- P.
P. 10 P. 11 P. 12

GORDON D.
DOWNING
MA 2
4261/722
4.13 A
P. 21

MAP 148-P. 59

MAP 139-P. 2

M. N. C. R. E. P. C.
3330/270
3.16 A.
P. 2

82B-17

2 A P 7

P. 8 P. 9 P. 10

82B-19

ELIOTT B
ROBERTSON
3976.5
5.51 A.
P. 15

82B-20

NOTTINGHAM

CALVERT COUNTY

O-S

GORDON D. DOWNING
4338/261
60.00 A
P. 23

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #82 B-17 Building Date: ca. 1850-57
Building Name: Turton-Smith House
Location: 17414 Nottingham Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Turton-Smith House is situated west of the Patuxent River, in Nottingham. The house is a low 2 1/2 stories, 3-by-2 bays, square in plan with a north, 1-story kitchen addition, and a steep gable roof with an extended west plane. The west facade, facing the road, is 3 bays with a first bay entrance. Doors and windows have plain wood surrounds. The 1 bay entrance porch has a gable roof with a plain cornice and architrave and a wood shingled pediment. An interior corbelled brick chimney is south of the facade center. The house is wood shingled, painted white. The 2-bay east facade faces the river, with entrance in the second bay. A 2-story shed roof screened porch runs across the facade, and continues across the 3-bay south facade. The 2-bay north gable end has the gable roof, 2-by-1 bay kitchen addition on its northwest corner. The addition has a parged corbelled interior chimney at its south gable ridge, and the same cornice, roof and wall covering as the main block. A 1 1/2 story summer kitchen southwest of the house, has like wall and roof covering and cornice treatment; and an interior brick chimney on the west gable end. The interior floor plan is a north side hall with two south parlors. The open-string, bracketed stairway is entered from the west (river) side of the house.

Significance:

The Turton-Smith House is a small, vernacular dwelling situated on the bank of the Patuxent River at Nottingham. It is the last structure in the village dating from the 19th century. Nottingham was established by the Act of 1706, and designated a tobacco inspection station in 1747. By the late 18th century it was a bustling town. In 1814, it was the site of the encampment of British troops as they marched on Washington. By the late nineteenth century, Nottingham began to decline. In 1901 a disastrous fire destroyed many of the old buildings. Today there is only a small community at the water's edge. The Turton-Smith House was built by Richard Turton between his acquiring the lot in 1850 and the settling of his estate in 1857. The house has had a series of owners including a prominent local black family, the Savoyes, from 1877 to 1902, and DeWitt L. Washington, also black, from 1905 to 1933.

Acreage: 1 acre

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Turton-Smith House

and/or common Smith House (listed on Inventory as Dr. Waring House)

2. Location

street & number 17414 Nottingham Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro Nottingham
vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mildred Smith

street & number 17414 Nottingham Road telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro, state and zip code MD. 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 4667

street & number Main Street folio 037

city, town Upper Marlboro, state MD. 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan for Prince George's County, Maryland

date 1981 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state MD. 20737

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #82B-17

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Turton-Smith House is situated on a bank approximately 80 feet west of the Patuxent River, in the Village of Nottingham. It is approached by an unpaved driveway which makes a loop in the flat, grassy yard. The main block is a low two-and-one-half stories, three by two bays, square in plan; it has a north, one-story kitchen addition. It has a steep gable roof with an extended west plane, giving it a salt-box roofline.

The west facade, facing Nottingham Road, is three bays with entrance in the first bay through a door with two horizontal lower panels and four upper lights. The three first-story bays do not align with the two second-story bays. The doors and windows have plain wood surrounds.

There is a one bay entrance porch with a gable roof and a wide, plain cornice and architrave. The pediment is filled with wood shingle, and the roof rests on square wood posts. There is an interior corbelled brick chimney south of the facade center line in the west slope of the roof. The house is covered with wood shingles painted white. Shingles follow the roofline in the gable ends to form a decorative course below the simple boxed cornice. The two-bay east facade faces the river. Entrance is through the second bay. A one-story shed roof screened porch runs across the facade, wraps around and continues across the south facade. The south gable end is three bays on the first story with entrance on the first bay. There are two bays on the second story and a 2/2 attic level window in the gable peak. The foundation material of the structure is not apparent.

There is a two-bay kitchen wing attached to the north gable end of the main block, flush with its west facade. The addition has a parge corbelled interior chimney at its south gable ridge. It is two by one bays, covered with wood shingle and having the same cornice and roof covering as the main block.

There is a one-and-one-half story summer kitchen southwest of the house, with the same wall covering, roof covering and cornice treatment as the main structure. It rests on a brick foundation and has a 6/6 window and an entrance in its east gable end, and a 6/6 window in the gable peak. There is an interior brick chimney on the west gable end and a well with a pump inside.

The interior of the house has been extensively renovated by the owner. The floor plan is hall and double parlor with a north stair hall and two south parlors. The interior trim varies, most of it being simple narrow wood molding. The west door has banded molding with bull's-eye corner blocks. The open-string, bracketed stairway is entered from the east (river) side of the house.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #82B-17

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History

Specific dates ca. 1850-61 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Turton-Smith House is a small, wood shingled mid-nineteenth century vernacular dwelling beautifully situated on the bank of the Patuxent River at Nottingham. Built ca. 1850-57, it is the last structure in the village which dates from the nineteenth century. A summer kitchen just southwest of the house dates to the same period.

Nottingham was an important commercial center in eighteenth century Prince George's County. The 1706 Assembly Act for the Advancement of Trade established Nottingham and five other towns as ports for shipping tobacco. It was designated as an official location for a tobacco inspection warehouse in 1747. By the late eighteenth century Nottingham was a bustling town of stores, warehouses and inns. In August of 1814, it was the site of the encampment of British troops as they marched on Washington. By the late nineteenth century, with the Patuxent River gradually losing its prominence as an artery of transportation, Nottingham began to decline. In 1901 a disastrous fire destroyed many of the old buildings. Today this is the only nineteenth century building still standing among the small community of residences at the water's edge.

The Smith-Turton House was built by Richard Turton sometime between his acquiring the one acre lot in 1850 and the settling of his estate after his death, in 1857.¹ Turton, listed as a merchant in the U.S. Census of 1850, was only 28 when he died. The Turton family owned considerable property in Nottingham District during the nineteenth century. The house has had a series of owners during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. These include a local black family, the Savoyes, from 1877 to 1902,² and DeWitt L. Washington, also black, from 1905 to 1933.³

Notes

¹ Land Records of Prince George's County, 17 Aug. 1850, J.B.B. 6:571; Equity #180, Decree dated 12 Dec. 1857.

² Ibid. H.B. 13:116 and Equity #2223, 1896.

³ Ibid. 29:335 to 384:221.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #82B-17

See Footnotes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acre

Tax Map 149, parcel 5

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, Section B

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

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F

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G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historian, Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian,
and Shirley Baltz, Researcher

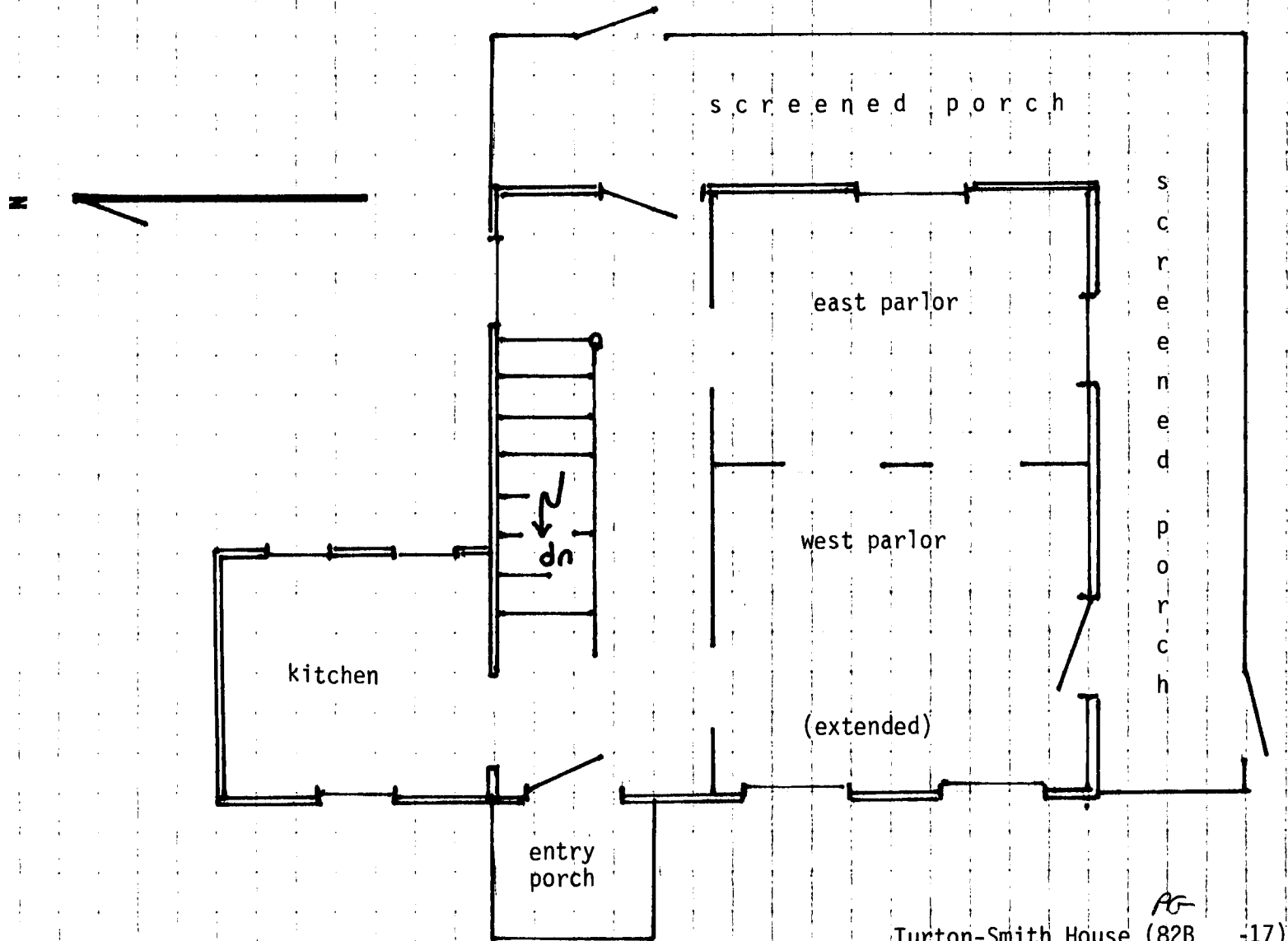
organization Historic Preservation Commission
c/o County Planning Div., M-NCPPC

date August 1985street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive,telephone 952-3521city or town Upper Marlboro,state MD. 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



Turton-Smith House (82B -17)
 Nottingham, MD
 (not to scale)

NOTTINGHAM

BERNARD D. DOWNING
4338/265
139.74 A
P. 7

TANYARD RD.

O-S

GORDON D. DOWNING
4338/261
163.94 A
P. 59

M. 138-
P. 30

M. 149
P. 22

4.08 A
P. 22

MAP 139 - P. 2

M. N. C. R. E. P. C.
3336/270
3.16 A.
P. 2

MAP 148-
P. 7

2 A P 7

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P. 9

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M. 148- P.
P. 10 II

P. 12

GORDON D.
DOWNING
4261/722
4.73 A.
P. 21

ELIOTT B
ROBERTSON
3976/5
5.51 A.
P. 15

MAP 148 - P. 59

NOTTINGHAM

CALVERT COUNTY

82B-17

82B-19

82B-20

O-S

GORDON D. DOWNING
4338/261
160.00 A
P. 23

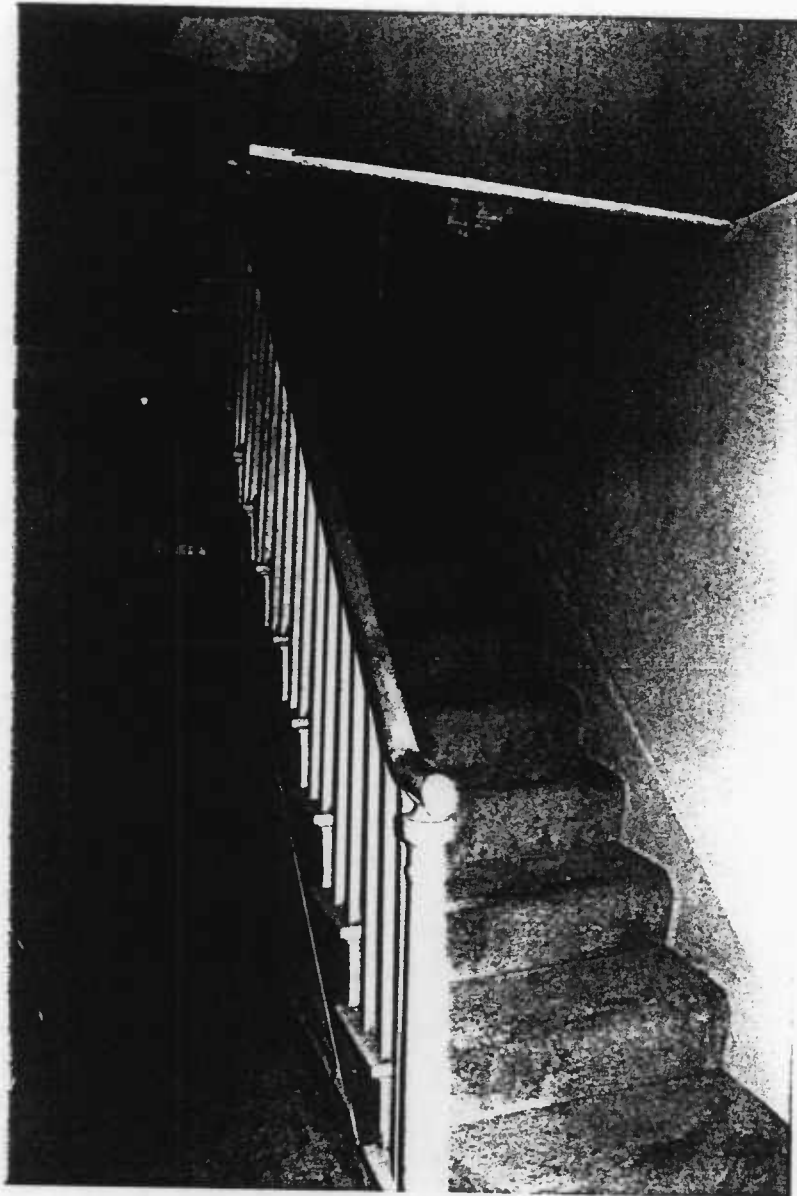
INGS



West facade October 2000



View from northeast October 2000



Stair, view from southeast

October 2000



Summer Kitchen from east October 2000

Chain of Title

Turton-Smith House
P.G. #82B-17

#4667:037 8/24/1976 Deed	William Telford Smith to Mildred Smith, his wife; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #3611:732.
#3611:732 7/10/1968 Deed	Russell M. Buck and Hilda E., his wife, to William Telford Smith and Mildred, his wife; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same which grantors acquired by #3196:48.
#3196:48 8/30/1965 Deed	May M. Pascault to Russell M. Buck and Hilda E., his wife; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #3196:46.
#3196:46 8/30/1965 Deed	Hilda E. Buck, surviving joint tenant of Edna L. Ryon who died 4/16/1965, and Russell M. Buck, her husband, to May M. Pascault; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same property conveyed to Hilda E. Buck and Edna L. Ryon by #2269:59.
#2269:59 11/17/1958 Deed	Matilda W. Duvall to Hilda E. Buck and Edna L. Ryon, as joint tenants with right of survivorship; 1 acre in Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #2269:57.
#2269:57 11/17/1958 Deed	Edna L. Ryon, unmarried to Matilda W. Duvall; 1 acre in Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #745:65.
#745:65 6/26/1944 Deed	Irene Downing, widow, to Edna L. Ryon; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #745:63.
#745:63 March 1944 Deed	Frank J. Mace and Esther, his wife, James D. Holman, Doree Germaine Holman and Frances L. Mace, heirs of their uncle, Arthur M. Mace, deceased, to Irene Downing; 1 acre in Village of Nottingham; same which Arthur M. Mace acquired by #384:221.
Administration #7468 1943	Arthur M. Mace died intestate 11/6/1943; his heirs were his nieces, Doree Germaine Holman and Frances Mace, and his nephews, James Holman and Frank Mace; he died possessed of a 1 acre lot in the Village of Nottingham with a house and 2 outbuildings.

- 2 -

#384:221
1/23/1933
Deed
DeWitt L. Washington to Arthur Mace; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #29:335.

#29:335
9/1/1905
Deed
Franklin L. Griffith of Anne Arundel County to DeWitt L. Washington of Calvert County; 1 acre in the Village of Nottingham; same which grantor acquired by #13:333.

#13:333
12/31/1902
Deed
George B. Merrick and T. Van Clagett, trustees to F. Lewis Griffith; 1 acre in Village of Nottingham; same property ordered sold by decree in Equity #2223.

Equity #2223
1896
Ford, et al, vs. Fountain, et al, heirs of Susan Savoy who died intestate 8/6/1895; petition for sale of deceased's 1 acre lot, with dwelling, in Village of Nottingham; decree 2/10/1896, trustees appointed to make sale.

HB #13:343
1/4/1878
Deed
Rebecca Savoy to Sarah Susanna Savoy, for her sole and separate use; 1 acre in Village of Nottingham with the buildings thereon; same grantor acquired by deed dated 8/25/1877.

HB #13:116
8/25/1877
Deed
Richard B. B. Chew, appointed trustee in Equity #704, to Rebecca Savoy; 1 acre, with house, in Village of Nottingham; same which Grosvenor M. C. Jones acquired by FS #3:248.

Equity #740
1872
Dr. John H. Skinner vs. Grosvenor M. C. Jones; Jones defaulted on the re-payment of a \$500 debt to Skinner; decree 10/14/1872 ordered sale of 1 acre lot in Nottingham which Jones acquired by FS #3:248. Richard B. B. Chew appointed trustee.

FS #3:248
11/14/1865
Deed
C. C. Magruder, appointed trustee in Equity #180, to Grosvenor M. C. Jones; a dwelling house and lot adjoining of which the late Richard W. Turton died seized.

Equity #180
1857
Thomas G. Turton, et al, vs. John G. Turton et al; parties were heirs-at-law of Richard W. Turton who died in 1851 and devised most of his estate to his wife for her life (who, by the time of the suit, was also deceased) and then the residue was to be divided among three brothers and one sister; deceased's estate was insufficient to pay debts so complainants petitioned for sale of property, the proceeds to be used to make settlement; Decree 12/12/1857, C. C. Magruder appointed trustee to make sale.

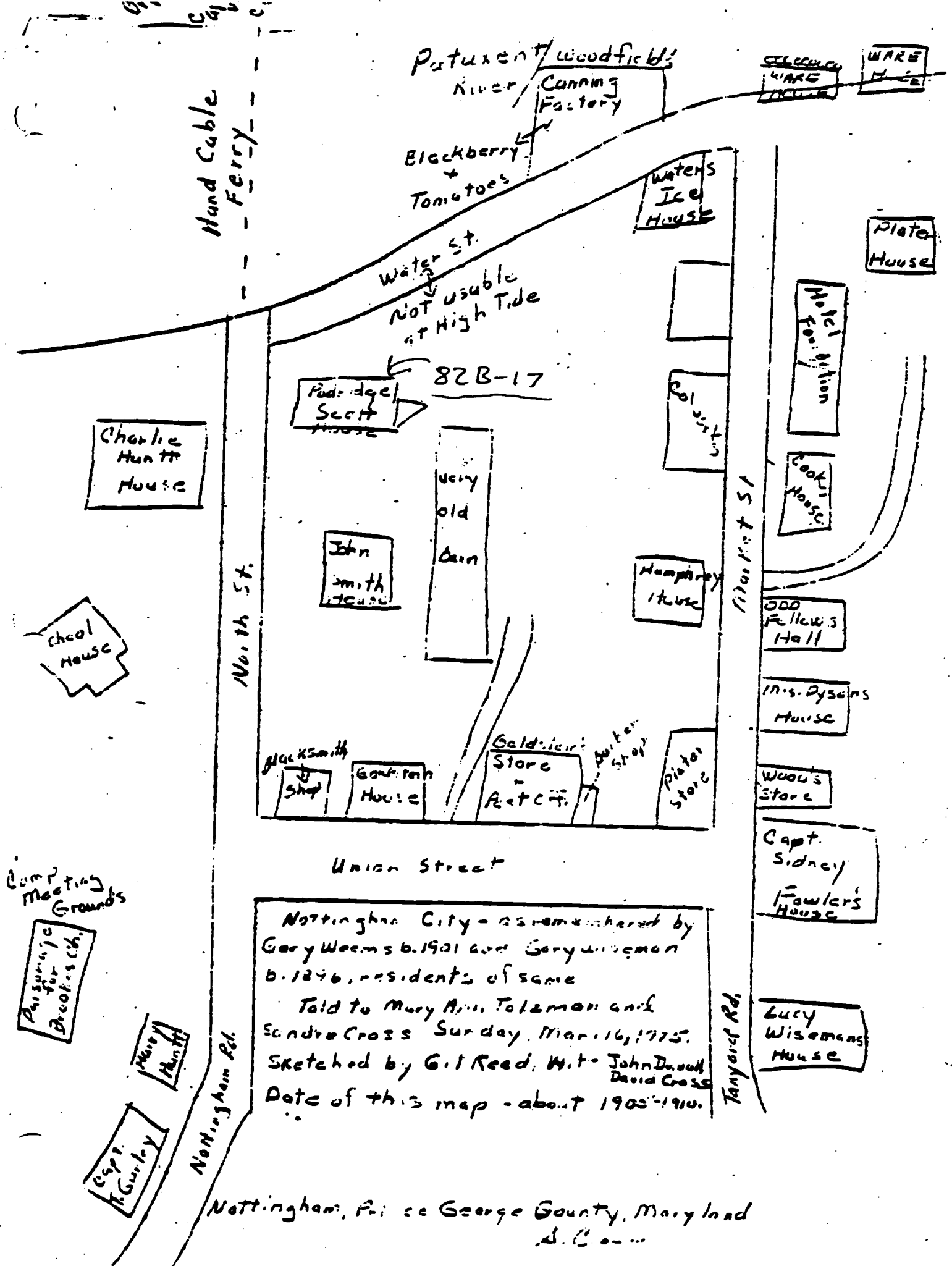
- 3 -

PC #1:454
19 May 1851
Will

Richard W. Turton, who died in 1851, devised his entire estate to his wife, Mary Jane Turton, for her life and upon her death the residue was to be divided among his three brothers and one sister.

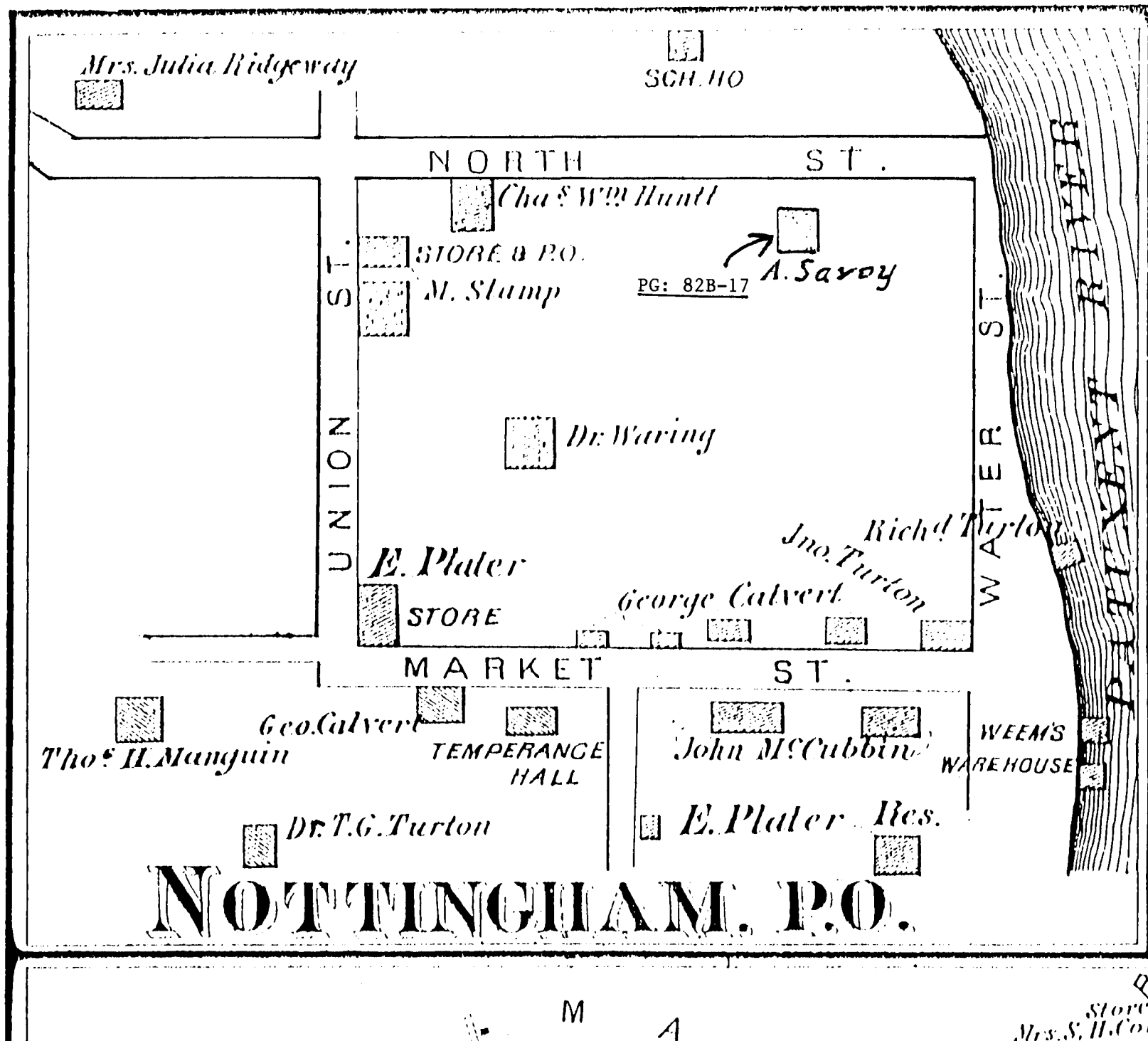
JBB #6:571
17 Aug 1850
Deed

For \$45, George W. Biscoe, attorney for Anselm V. and Elizabeth Adams, Martha Cenfinan and Mary Beckwith, to Richard W. Turton; parcel in the Village of Nottingham.



Nottingham City - as remembered by
Gary Weems b. 1901 and Gary Wiseman
b. 1896, residents of same
Told to Mary Ann Tolaman and
Sandra Cross Sunday, Mar. 16, 1975.
Sketched by Gil Reed. With John Duvall
Davis Cross
Date of this map - about 1905-1910.

Nottingham, Prince George County, Maryland
S. C. ...



PG: 82B-17
C.M. Hopkins Atlas, 1878

U
Mrs. Eugene
Jno
Jas. H. S.
Store
Miss N. B.
Dr. Tho
Mrs. S. H. Coltr
Store & P.O.
PG: 82B-17

NOTTINGHAM

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P.10 II

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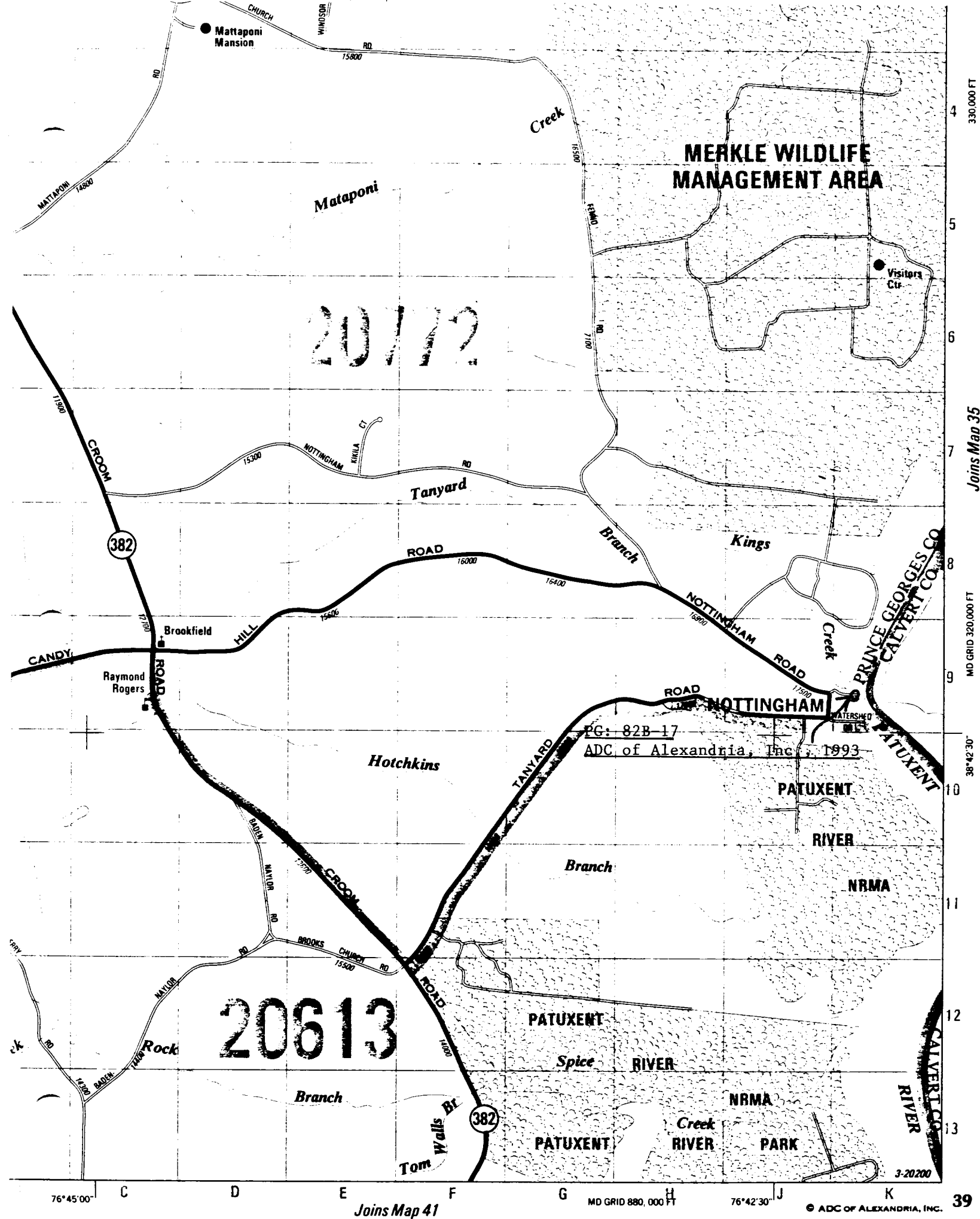
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P. 23



MANAGEMENT

AREA

PG: 82B-17

Turton-Smith House

Lower Marlboro/Quad, 1953,

PR 1979

Extent of hydrographic information

Jones
Point

Point
CALVERT CO.
PRINCE GEORGES



P.G. #82B-17

Turton-Smith House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1985
North elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #82B-17

Turton-Smith House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1985
South elevation - Summer kitchen
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #82B-17

Turton-Smith House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1985
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #82B-17

Turton-Smith House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1985
West elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md



P.G. #82B-17

Turton-Smith House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1985
South elevation- Summer kitchen
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



82B-17

NAME DR. WARING HOUSE

LOCATION NOTTINGHAM, Md

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 9/5/74 MDWYER